

# **Vital Statistics Report Lancaster County, Nebraska 2000**

**LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

*3140 N Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510*

**Bruce D. Dart, MS**  
Health Director

**DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGIC SERVICES**  
**(402) 441-6271**

**Pramod Dwivedi, MSW, MS,**  
Public Health Epidemiologist

**S. Waker Moazzem, MBBS, MPH**  
Asst. Public Health Epidemiologist

**John Steinauer**  
Epi/G.I.S. Analyst

**Padmanabha Raju Kakarlapudi**  
Epidemiology Intern

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# INTRODUCTION

This is the twenty-third annual Lancaster County Vital Statistics Report published by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD). This report contains vital statistics data for the 2000 calendar year. In addition to birth and death statistics, this report contains 2000 marriage and divorce data for Lancaster County for the same period. Information contained in this report is based on the vital records of the State of Nebraska, which were sent to LLCHD by the Data Management Section, Nebraska Health and Human Services System.

Historical data, Year 2010 Objectives, and data for Nebraska have been used where relevant to show trends and comparisons. Birth and mortality rates are calculated using population estimates from the U.S. Census. The 2000 population of Lancaster County was set at 250,291 by 2000 US census Data.

Data provided by the Nebraska Birth Defects Registry were used to examine trends of congenital anomalies and their distribution by age and race of the mother. Since 1999 we have started using new cause of death classification. This new classification is the tenth revision of International Classification of Disease (ICD-10), which replaced ICD-9. The ICD-9 was in use during 1979-1998.

New in this report are: the addition of one GIS map that depicts Crude Death Rate (See the Appendix), age adjusted death rates by cause of death, life tables by race and gender and five leading causes of death by race, age and gender.

Age adjusted rates are used to examine the difference in death rates from year to year. Adjusted rates are also utilized to compare county deaths with those of the State.

This report is divided in three different sections: 1) Birth Statistics, 2) Death Statistics, and 3) Marriage and Divorce Statistics.

## Birth Statistics

This section presents year 2000 birth data for Lancaster County, Nebraska, according to a wide variety of characteristics. Presented data are for demographic characteristics (age, live birth order, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, and educational attainment); maternal characteristics (medical risk factors, weight gain, tobacco and alcohol use); medical care utilization by pregnant women (prenatal care, obstetric procedures, complication of labor or delivery, attendant at birth, and method of delivery); and infant characteristics (period of gestation, birth weight, Apgar score, abnormal conditions, and multiple births). Birth and fertility rates are also presented by age, live birth order, race, Hispanic origin and marital status. Trends in birth, fertility, maternal, and infant characteristics are described and interpreted. In addition, birth defects found among the infants are also discussed.

This section covers description tabulation of data reported on birth certificates of the 3,758 births that occurred in Lancaster County in 2000.

## **Death Statistics**

This section presents year 2000 death certificate data of Lancaster County, Nebraska. Based on the characteristics of the deceased. It discusses leading causes of death, infant mortality, and fetal deaths. Also presented in this section, unintentional injury death, disposition and place of death, trends in death (gender specific), infant mortality rate, fetal death rate.

This section provides descriptive tabulations of age-adjusted rates (for comparison) of data reported on death certificates of the 1,653 deaths that occurred in Lancaster County in 2000.

## **Marriage and Divorce Statistics**

Marriage and divorce section provides a descriptive summary of the 2,585 marriages and 1,155 divorces that took place in Lancaster County in 2000. Marriages and divorces are described according to age, race and education. A profile of children of the divorcees is also presented.

## **Highlights**

- i A significant improvement in infant mortality rate (IMR) was seen in non-white children from last year. The IMR for non-white was 8 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 5.6 white deaths per 1,000 live births.
- i Birth Rate went up again this year: a third time increase in a row.
- i Number of low-birth weight babies went up: a second consecutive increase.
- i Race is far more significant as a determinant of low birth weight than smoking, alcohol use or both combined.
- i Heart Disease becomes number one killer again. (Last year, for the first time, cancer was the leading cause of death.)
- i Increasing number of women having children at older ages.
- i Steady increase in non-marital births since 1978 from 98 per 1,000 to 249 per 1,000 women. Non-marital births were the highest among the Black and American-Indian mothers at 60.0% and 57.1%. Hispanic non-marital births were nearly one and half of that of White at 34.1% as compared to 23.4% for the White births. Asians had the lowest rate of non-marital births at 18.9%.
- i Life expectancy at birth is 79.1 for Lancaster County residents. Females (81.4 years) are likely to live longer than males (76.7 years). Life expectancy for White, Black, American Indian and Asian is 79.1 years, 77.3 years, 64 years and 85 years respectively.

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Please direct comments or recommendations to:

Email: [epi@ci.lincoln.ne.us](mailto:epi@ci.lincoln.ne.us)

Telephone: 402/441-6271

Fax: 402/441-8323

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<http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/health/admin/epi/vitstat.htm>